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Manistee County Board of Commissioners

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Thomas Kaminski
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GREEN TEAM COMMITTEE

Friday, February 1, 2008 1:30 P.M.

Manistee County Courthouse & Government Center Board of Commissioners Meeting Room

MINUTES

Members Present:

Allan O'Shea, Chairman; Carl Rutske; and Glenn Lottie

Others Present:

Thomas Kaminski, County Controller/Administrator; John O'Hagan, Undersheriff; Dan Shepard, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians; and

Rachel Nelson, Administrative Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 P.M.

ITEMS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Mr. O'Shea opened the meeting by welcoming the new members: Undersheriff John O'Hagan, and Dan Shepard of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Linda Duchon of the Medical Care Facility has also agreed to be on the team, but couldn't make it to today's meeting. The Committee would still like to add two additional team members.

Mr. O'Shea stated some important issues for the Committee, such as educating people, reducing costs and energy use, etc. Eventually, it will be the responsibility of this advisory group to impart that knowledge. Mr. Shepard shared that the Tribe does have a Renewable Energy Plan.

Mr. Kaminski reported that Ms. Nelson has been working on the NACO energy tracking program. The energy and natural gas use for the Sheriff's Office and Courthouse has been compiled. Mr. Kaminski also mentioned things that have been done within the last five years at the Courthouse, such as gradually switching over to T-6 lights, using automatic light switches, recycling paper and cardboard, and new windows. It was discovered that the Sheriff's Office doesn't recycle paper and cardboard, and this would be an easy thing to change.

Vehicles were discussed since the Sheriff's Office will be looking at purchasing new ones. This is done through a State contract, which saves money, so there are some restrictions as to what cars can be purchased. Mr. O'Shea recommended that a letter be composed from the Sheriff's Office to the State inquiring what they are doing to help conserve fuel with patrol cars. The County will also be looking at purchasing a new County vehicle since the van was sold, and there are more options that can be researched with this vehicle.

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The Committee worked on forming a draft mission statement, and came up with the following:

The County of Manistee has formed an advisory team to improve our working and living environments, building economically and environmentally sustainable communities.

It was agreed that before the next meeting, everyone would come up with goals and objectives for the group, which can be shared and discussed at the March meeting. Some items that were mentioned include having an educational component, advising and cooperating with other government entities, and resource sharing.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

Allan O'Shea, Chairperson
Glenn Lottie, Commissioner
Carl Rutske, Commissioner

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